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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

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The following is a summary of Soviet military activity and the movement of Soviet troops and military equipment along the Iranian border for the period 2 - 30 April 1951.

1. Pol Dasht
29 April

One artillery piece of unknown caliber was observed moving from Shah Takhti (39-22N, 45-06E) to the station (unidentified).

Two motorized truck-drawn 105 mm guns were observed moving from Shah Takhti to the front of the station (unidentified); from here they were moved behind a ruined house.

20 armed troops were observed moving from Shah Takhti to the post of Pol Dasht.

One armored car was observed moving from Shah Takhti to Dzhulfa, where it moved to the heights east of the railroad station and was concealed.

30 April
Westbound rail traffic from Nakhichevan to Yerevan included two cars carrying weapons carriers and 31 cars carrying troops.

2. Dzhulfa
25-26 April
(report for two days)

Westbound road traffic from Ordubad to Dzhulfa included 11 trucks carrying one (sic) 105 mm gun.

28 April

Rifle training took place at Dzhulfa.

102 rockets were fired at Dzhulfa.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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3. Sia Rud
25-26 April
(report for two days) Westbound rail traffic from Baku to Dzhulfa included four cars carrying armed troops.

27 April Rail traffic to Dzhulfa included five cars carrying armed troops.
Also observed was rail traffic which included 15 passenger cars of armed troops, and one car carrying heavy machine guns (direction of travel not given).

4. Garmi
25 April Roads have been constructed behind the border posts in this area.
A number of cavalry troops have been added to each post in the Garmi area.
Underground shelters and observation towers are being constructed in the Garmi area.

night Patrols composed of groups of eight to ten men each have been observed.

29 April Deep trenches have been dug opposite the Iranian post of Oumtan (not located). Trucks brought heavy cases to these trenches.

5. Namin
24 April Trenches were dug at Sholecheran (not located).
28 April Boxes of rockets were delivered to the watch towers of the Malyurd post (not located).
Rifle and machine gun practice took place at the posts of Lozhi (not located) and Sadafarin (not located).

6. Astara
24 April Southbound road traffic from Lenkoran to Astara included 26 vehicles.
Northbound road traffic from Astara to Lenkoran included five vehicles.
Westbound road traffic from Astara to Masjed Mahalleh included eight vehicles carrying one officer and twenty armed troops.

25-26 April
(report for two days) Southbound road traffic from Lenkoran to Astara included 26 vehicles.
Northbound road traffic from Astara to Lenkoran included 11 vehicles, one truck carrying troops, and one group of infantrymen on foot.
Westbound road traffic from Astara to Masjed Mahalleh included three vehicles carrying one officer, 16 unarmed troops, and ten unarmed sergeants; and one truck carrying armed troops.
Eastbound road traffic from Masjed Mahalleh to Astara included one truck carrying unarmed troops.

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Road traffic from Masjed Mahalleh to the last western post under observation included nine vehicles carrying four officers and seven troops, and one truck carrying civilians.

Eastbound road traffic from the last western post under observation included 12 vehicles carrying three officers, three armed and 18 unarmed troops, and five civilians.

12 salvos of artillery were fired at Bagchen Sareh (38-27N, 48-50E).

27 April

Southbound road traffic from Lenkoran to Astara included 28 vehicles carrying 12 officers and 65 armed troops, one truck carrying armed troops, and one group of armed infantrymen.

Northbound road traffic Astara to Lenkoran included six vehicles carrying two officers and 54 unarmed troops.

Westbound road traffic from Astara to Masjed Mahalleh included seven vehicles carrying three officers, 45 armed troops, and two civilians, and one group of armed infantrymen on foot.

Eastbound road traffic from Masjed Mahalleh to Astara included five vehicles carrying six officers, 42 unarmed troops, and six civilians, and one truck carrying unarmed troops.

Road traffic from Masjed Mahalleh to the last western post under observation included seven vehicles carrying eight unarmed troops.

Road traffic from the last western post under observation to Masjed Mahalleh included five vehicles carrying 19 unarmed troops and three women.

28 April

Southbound road traffic from Lenkoran to Astara included 18 vehicles.

Northbound road traffic from Astara to Lenkoran included five vehicles and two groups of armed infantrymen.

Westbound road traffic from Astara to Masjed Mahalleh included two trucks carrying 23 unarmed troops and two sergeants, and one truck carrying male and female troops.

Road traffic from Masjed Mahalleh to the last western post under observation included four vehicles carrying two officers and 20 unarmed troops.

Road traffic from the last western post under observation to Masjed Mahalleh included eight vehicles carrying eight officers and 26 unarmed troops.

29 April

Southbound road traffic from Lenkoran to Astara included an unstated number of vehicles carrying two officers and a few troops, and two groups of armed infantrymen on foot.

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Northbound road traffic from Astara to Lenkoran included six trucks carrying armed troops, and two groups of unarmed troops on foot.

Westbound road traffic from Astara to Masjed Mahalleh included three vehicles carrying two officers and 23 unarmed troops, and three mounted troops.

Eastbound road traffic from Masjed Mahalleh to Astara included one truck carrying 20 unarmed troops.

Westbound road traffic from Masjed Mahalleh included two trucks carrying troops.

Eastbound road traffic from the last western post under observation included four vehicles carrying four officers and a few unarmed troops.

7. Lutfabad
2 April

One armored car stopped at a border post located about 200 meters from the frontier.

One truck carrying four troops and an artillery piece was observed moving along the border.

8. Serakhs
24 April

Soviet reconnaissance planes made continuous flights along the frontier.

Barbed wire continues to be laid in the direction of Shir-Tapeh (36-00N, 61-07E).

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